



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

Mr. Clark treads warily however, and admits that the basis of the Provisional Government "was the assumed consent of the grantees under the alleged Warwick Patent, represented by John Winthrop Jr., rather than on any inherent authority of the Massachusetts Bay Colony".

In his treatment of colonial history, Mr. Clark is most conservative. The Charter Oak and its history are given as undisputed facts. "Priest" Peters receives his customary berating for his witty *jeu d'esprit* known as the *History of Connecticut*. The history of the Andros "usurpation" adopts Trumbull's invectives unquestioned. The author is fair and moderate in what he has to say about the treatment of the Quakers and the witches. It is true that Quakers were not ill used in the colony of Connecticut proper, though they suffered great hardships in New Haven and at Southold, but they were everywhere denied the common rights and privileges of Englishmen. The witchcraft delusion was, as the author says most truly, no worse in New England than in the mother-country, and Connecticut was disgraced with no such bloodthirsty panic as occurred in the Bay Colony. There was enough of it, however, to disgust modern citizens of Connecticut with the superstitious intolerance of their ancestors, and all that can be said in extenuation is, that they were not as bad as others.

The author is impartial in his theological comments. He holds up the Saybrook Platform and the Half-Way Covenant to abhorrence, and he tells the story of the expulsion of the Yale undergraduates who attended a New Light meeting in their vacation. He is strictly fair in his account of the dethronement of the "Standing Order" in the peaceful revolution of 1818.

The limits of a review will not allow a discussion of what is indeed a characteristic part of the work, the history of manners and of industry. It is, perhaps, sufficient to say that the work contains a great deal of curious and interesting information, and it may be recommended to those who desire to come into sympathetic familiarity with the manners and customs, past and present, of the denizens of Connecticut from the "huge reptiles and the terrible mastodon" down to the monster enterprises of the New Connecticut.

*A History of the National Capital, from its Foundation through the Period of the Adoption of the Organic Act.* By WILHELMUS BOGART BRYAN. Volume I. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1914. Pp. xv, 669.)

THE City of Washington is the National Capital; that is the most comprehensive description that can be given of it; but to call it the National Capital is to call it by its descriptive title instead of its name. This book ought to have been called a History of the City of Washington. It comes up to the year 1814 and is to be followed by at least one other volume. The chief sources of material are, besides those works

which are generally accessible, several manuscript collections in Washington—the Papers of the Continental Congress in the Library of Congress, the District of Columbia Papers in the State Department, the papers in the office of the Commissioner of Public Buildings and Grounds in the War Department, the Thornton, Henley-Smith, Washington, Jefferson, and Stoddert papers in the Library of Congress, the early city records, and a number of obscure local imprints which contain valuable information concerning the city. The publications of the Columbia Historical Society, which Mr. Bryan has used freely, have brought to light a great deal of valuable data which would have been hidden if that society had not been formed.

Mr. Bryan's research has been conscientious and his style is unpretentious. He obtrudes no so-called historical discoveries and he holds no brief for a particular character. The result is that we feel confidence in his work. The book discloses greater research and industry, however, than skill in historical treatment, and some matters of supreme importance in the history of the city are treated as if they were of subordinate interest. For example, the bargain between Jefferson and Hamilton was the immediate cause of the location of the Capital on the Potomac; but Mr. Bryan gives a meagre account of it. He has missed an important fact in relation to the change of votes by which the bargain was carried out, for he states that two members changed their votes—Alexander White and Richard Bland Lee of Virginia—whereas there were two others—Daniel Carroll and George Gale of Maryland. Carroll afterwards served as commissioner of the District and Mr. Bryan's account of him loses some force by the omission of the important part he played in locating the District.

The book opens with a discussion of the genesis of the idea that there must be a national capital; then follow the offers of various sites to the Continental Congress and the selection of the Potomac River region. There is a good description of the region, the early Indian inhabitants and the early white settlers. In chapter V. Mr. Bryan tells of the first church established in the District—that at Rock Creek in 1712—of the earliest school in 1785, of the first newspaper in 1789, of the early importance of Georgetown and the belief that it was destined to become one of the great ports of the country. Washington's itinerary in his investigation of the region in which Congress said the District must lie is told with interesting detail.

His selection met with general approval. He succeeded in including a Maryland and a Virginia city in the new district and he provided, as he thought, for a great commercial centre. The intricate proceedings which attended the establishment of the city are unravelled with detail and thoroughness. Mr. Bryan goes over the story of L'Enfant and Ellicott with impartiality and justice. L'Enfant's splendid plans were accepted; but L'Enfant was so constituted that he could not work in harmony with the commissioners and to lay out the city presented

practical questions of immediate importance which he would not attend to, so his separation from the enterprise became a necessity. Mr. Bryan says: "It is quite apparent, however, that he was determined on his own way, and mingled with the persistency of an egoist, was the serious lack of system and steadiness in continued effort. He was probably incapable by nature of following with constancy a given course and was beset and led astray by the largeness and variety of his conceptions as well as his firm conviction of the superiority of his ideas." There is an account of the various sales of lots and the discouraging efforts of the commissioners to raise money with which to build the city without an appropriation from the general government. In 1792 Samuel Blodgett, jr., appeared on the scene, the first of a long line of "promoters", who caused the early history of the development of the city to be inextricably interwoven with the efforts at personal aggrandizement of speculators. Blodgett was appointed "Supervisor of the buildings" and in general of the affairs of the District in 1794, and used his official position with a view to improving his personal fortune; but he did not succeed; in fact the early speculators nearly all failed, and the city was the grave of their hopes of fortune.

The government moved to the new city in 1800 and then began the problem of its government. Robert Brent was appointed mayor in 1802 and held the office until it was made elective in 1812. Mr. Bryan traces the rise of the local institutions chiefly in the last three chapters.

This is the best of the histories of Washington; in fact, it is the only one which deserves to be classed as a permanent contribution to the history of the city.

GAILLARD HUNT.

## MINOR NOTICES

*Master-Clues in World-History.* By Andrew Reid Cowan. (London and New York, Longmans, 1914, pp. vii, 331.) This is an essay in "historical dynamics", which attempts to discover the "master clues", in the sense of the fundamental factors, which shaped the evolution of society. It is anthropology, geography, anthro-geography, sociology, rather than "world history" in the ordinary sense of the political history of the various countries of the world. It deals (except for the last two chapters) with prehistoric man and the influence of his environment upon him. After distinguishing man from the animals by his capacity to use tools, he proceeds to the effects of climate, to the beginnings of agriculture, and of pastoral life. "Predatoriness" he finds a master clue. Nomadism is another, and its passing marked the beginnings of real civilization. The influence of the sea was progressive; the subjection of women a hindrance to the development of the race; slavery was the product of a sedentary civilization. History as recorded he thinks shows "drift" rather than purpose. The "tillage civilizations"